WEALTH MARKETS AND COMMERCE

Finance - Economics

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Dun's Review reports dispassionately on the state of the chase. The pursuit continues, because it cannot be abandoned, and there is nothing to complain of in the tactics of demand, but the villanous supply is an able fugitive. Some ground has been lost. The gap has widened:

> Disproportion between demand and supply is more pronounced than at any previous time, and the rise in prices continues apace. Widely divergent lines exhibit steadily increasing strength, and though most commodities are already at an extreme position, there is no sign that the crest has yet been reached. In steel and iron, in textiles and in other branches the eagerness of buyers is regarded as foreshadowing still further advances, the growing scarcity of materials and products impelling urgent efforts to cover far distant requirements. Evidences of expansion are visible on every hand, but many manufacturers and merchants, with commendable judgment and prudence, endeavor to repress demand rather than encourage it, and credits are closely scanned.

There were 289 failures during the week, against 297 the week before. Doubtless those were the skeptics. They did not buy, or bought too late.

Money is now the cheapest thing in the world.

There is hesitation in United States Steel common, owing to uncertainty as to whether the earnings for the third quarter have been at the rate of 60 per cent a year for the common shareholders or only 50 per cent.

For purposes of Democratic politics, our immense foreign trade is like a barbed wire fence. However you get over and back, you are very likely to tear your logic. Mr. Wilson says it is nothing, or almost nothing:

> If you take the figures of our commerce, domestic and foreign included, you will find that the foreign commerce, even upon a modest reckoning of our domestic commerce, does not equal 4 per cent of the total.

And yet you must not belittle foreign commerce, for it has been extremely profitable, as he sets forth in the next paragraph:

> And in the meantime, what have we done? It was estimated that at the beginning of the war about four thousand million dollars' worth of American securities were held on the other side of the water. In these two years we have bought back again, it is estimated—for it cannot be accurately determined—$2,000,000,000. We have actually been able to take back into our own hands half of what we have borrowed from Europe, and we have accumulated in that time $2,636,000,000 of gold, which is one-third of the gold supply of the world. If the war goes on another year we shall probably have half the gold supply of the world.

The dilemma is how to claim all the war prosperity there is and then ascribe it to the prescience of the party in power.

Mr. Wilson may know his economics, but he has received his figures. They were probably furnished by Mr. Redfield. They will not scan. There is not in existence any proper estimate of the ratio of foreign to domestic trade. Mr. Wilson, on his received statistics, says it is less than 4 per cent—that foreign commerce does not equal 4 per cent of our total domestic commerce. In the last two years there has been a revival in domestic commerce such as was never imagined before. "Now," he asks, "is 4 per cent creating the 96 per cent? Is it reasonable to suppose that it is?" It is not. The 4 per cent is wrong. The excess of our merchandise exports—the amount of goods we sell above the amount we buy—is now running at the rate of $4,000,000,000 a year. If that is 4 per cent of our production of goods for the satisfaction of human wants, then the total (100 per cent) is $100,000,000,000. Having exported $4,000,000,000 worth, we should have a remainder for our own use of $96,000,000,000. That would be $960 worth of goods a year for each man, woman and child in the United States. Or, take it another way. There is an average of four and a half persons a family in this country. Therefore, in our population of 100,000,000 there are 22,222,222 families. If you divide $96,000,000,000 of goods among that number of families you have $4,320 worth of goods a family. That is simply preposterous. According to the Federal income tax returns, fewer than 400,000 families have incomes above $4,000 a year each.

The surplus of goods which we are exporting is much more than 4 per cent of our total production. The fallacy of dividing the statistical record of domestic commerce into the value of goods exported to determine the ratio of foreign to domestic trade is quite obvious. The statistical record of domestic commerce contains endless repetitions; the record of foreign trade contains none. Take, for illustration, any article of merchandise which is produced in the same way either for domestic use or for export—say, a ton of steel rails. The finished rail represents a great number of separate transactions in domestic commerce—the cost of producing the ore, of transporting it to the furnace, of converting it into steel with fuel which also had to be mined and transported, of rolling the steel ingot into the rail form and of shipping it to the final buyer. Each one who buys or sells the materials entering into the manufacture of the rail makes his charge, and it is added to the sum of domestic commerce. Every one who adds labor to the material charges wages for that service, and the spending of these wages for all manner of goods increases the sum of domestic commerce. And now, when the rail is finished it may be delivered to the Erie Railroad, at Dunkirk or sold at tidewater for export to France. In either case it has left a long trail of transactions in the statistical record of domestic commerce. If it is sold to the Erie one more transaction is entered; but if it is exported it is entered once for the first and only time in the record of foreign trade, as if it had fallen ready made out of the blue sky. A ton of rails, valued at $30, may be represented in the repetitions of domestic commerce by transactions to the sum of many times that amount. A ton of rails exported is represented in foreign trade simply by the final selling value of $30. Thus, to compare the money value of merchandise exported with the grand total money record of domestic exchanges is absurd. The article exported contains a large number of domestic exchanges. The only test is to think of goods in the ultimate form. The value of goods exported is now running, as has been said, to more than $4,000,000,000 a year, and that is much more than 4 per cent of the amount of goods produced for the final satisfaction of human wants in the United States.

Money and Credit

Money on call at the New York Stock Exchange ruled at 2¼ per cent, with a low of 2.

Time funds on brokers' Stock Exchange collateral are in liberal supply without any expansion in demand. Rates show no quotable change.

There is a growing tendency on the part of interior banks to transfer funds to the London market, where they can be employed to better advantage. Institutions in the South, as well as in the Middle West, have done this on a comparatively large scale of late.

Ruling rates on money yesterday compared with a year ago were as follows:

	Yesterday.	A year ago.
Call money....	2¼%	1¾%
Time money:		
60 days.....	3 %	2½@2¾%
90 days.....	3¼%	2¾@3 %
4 months....	3¼%	3 %
5 to 6 mos..	3¼@3½%	3 %

Commercial Paper.—Dull trading characterizes the commercial paper market. Offerings are scarce and this accounts for the light turnover. The best regular maturities are moving at 3½ to 3¾ per cent.

Official rates of discount at each of the twelve Federal districts are as follows:

	Maturity in days. 10d.	30d.	60d.	90d
Boston	3	3½	4	4
New York..........	*3	4	4	4
Philadelphia	*3½	4	4	4
Cleveland	3½	4	4½	4½
Richmond	4	4	4	4
Atlanta	4	4	4	4
Chicago	3½	4	4	4½
St. Louis..........	3	4	4	4
Minneapolis	4	4	4	4½
Kansas City.......	4½	4½	4½	4½
Dallas	3½	4	4	4
San Francisco.....	3	3½	4	4½

*15-day paper.

Bank Exchanges.—The day's clearings at New York and other cities:

	Exchanges.	Balances.
New York......	$587,986,864	$22,962,566
Baltimore	6,308,864	432,137
Boston	36,576,487	5,724,099
Chicago	73,083,792	3,260,432
Philadelphia ...	45,243,921	5,389,629
St. Louis.......	22,303,305	3,518,230

Sub-Treasury. — New York banks gained from the Sub-Treasury $1,706,000.

The Week's Money Currents.—A gain in cash by the banks of about $22,000,000 is indicated from the reported movements of currency during the week, according to Dow, Jones & Co. Gold imports, Monday to Friday inclusive, totalled $39,500,000.

Silver.—Bars in London, 32¼ pence; here in New York, 67⅝ cents; Mexican dollars, 51⅞@55⅞.

Fifteen Millions More Gold.—The influx of British gold continues. Yesterday $15,000,000 arrived from Ottawa. Of this $10,000,000 was deposited at the Assay Office and the remaining $5,000,000 went to the vaults of the Clearing House. The latter deposit was made for the account of the Federal Reserve Bank, which was allowed storage space by the association. While the officials of the Reserve Bank declined to comment on the transaction, it is understood that the metal was purchased from J. P. Morgan & Co. and lodged temporarily in the Clearing House vault until the congestion resulting at the Assay Office from the recent heavy receipts of the metail is relieved.

This is not the first transaction of the kind. In June, when there were heavy imports of gold from Canada, a considerable portion was purchased from the Morgans by the Federal Reserve Bank. One of the reasons given was that the gold, in being taken by the Reserve Bank, would tend to keep down inflation. Had the metal been taken by local banks, it was pointed out, it would have been possible to have expanded it four or five times as the basis for credit. As it is, the Federal Reserve Bank can only issue notes against the gold, dollar for dollar.

Total gold imports from Canada since the current movement began, on October 17, now amount to $65,000,000.

Another $1,000,000 was transferred by the Sub-Treasury to San Francisco yesterday and will be exported to Japan.

The Dollar in Foreign Exchange

Weakness of Italian lire furnished the feature of the foreign remittance market, the rate dropping from 6.56 to 6.57½. Sterling, francs and marks were steady. Russian rubles went lower again, falling to 31.05 cents, compared with 31.15 on Thursday.

	Yesterday.	Week ago.
Sterling, demand.......	4.75 11-16	4.75 11-16
Sterling, sixty days....	4.71⅝	4.71¾
Sterling, cables........	4.76 3-16	4.76 3-16
Sterling, ninety days...	4.69¼	4.69½
Francs, demand	5.84½	5.84½
Francs, cables	5.83½	5.83½
Guilders, checks	41	40⅛
Guilders, cables........	41 3-16	40¼
Reichsmarks, checks...	70¼	70⅛
Reichsmarks, cables....	70⅜	70¼
Lire, checks	6.57½	6.54¼
Lire, cables	6.56½	6.53½
Swiss, checks	5.26¼	5.26
Swiss, cables	5.25½	5.25
Austrian kronen, ch'ks.	11.94	11.97
Stockholm, kr., checks..	28.45	28.45
Copenhagen, kr., ch'ks..	27.30	27.30
Pesetas, checks	20.30	20.20
Rubles, checks	31.05	31.15

Below is given the current exchange value of foreign money in dollars and cents, together with the intrinsic gold parity, as calculated by the United States Mint:

	Current exchange value.	Intrinsic value.
Pounds, sterling......	$4.75 11-16	$4.86⅝
Francs	0.17.1	0.19.3
Guilders	0.41	0.40.2
Marks	0.17.6	0.23.8
Rubles	0.31.05	0.51.2
Lire	0.15.4	0.19.3
Crowns (Denmark)...	0.27.30	0.26.8
Crowns (Sweden).....	0.28.45	0.26.8

The above rates express the cost of foreign money in terms of the American dollar. You buy an English pound sterling for $4.75 11-16; the intrinsic parity is $4.86⅝ per pound. Thus, you say either that pounds are at a discount or that dollars are at a premium, which is owing to the fact that in England the demand for dollars with which to settle accounts in this country is greater than the demand in this country for pounds with which to settle accounts in England.

FOUR BANKS SHIFT WALL ST. QUARTERS

New Leases Involve Rentals of More than $2,000,000

New quarters in the Wall Street district have been found for the Metropolitan Trust Company (George C. Van Tuyl, jr., president), the International Bank, the Specie Bank of Yokohama and the International Banking Corporation. The leases, which were negotiated by George R. Read & Co., involve rentals aggregating more than $2,000,000.

The Metropolitan Trust Company is to have the entire second floor and half of the fourth floor at 60 Wall Street, now occupied by the International Banking Corporation and the International Bank. The International Banking Corporation gets the quarters of the Specie Bank of Yokohama in the National City Bank Building, and the International Bank finds a new home in the Whitehall Building, on Battery Place.

On the fifth floor of the Equitable Building will be the new quarters of the Specie Bank of Yokohama.

Bermuda, It Is English

Attention is called to the fact that English is the language spoken in Bermuda, and that many American manufacturers when seeking to introduce their goods into the colony write letters in Spanish, assuming that to be the language of the colony. Also, many letters are received bearing insufficient postage. It is easily unnderstood how these small matters militate very strongly against the success of any firm thus offending in attempting to form trade connections in Bermuda, and because the points are so simple they should certainly not be overlooked.—Consul Carl R. Loop at Hamilton, Bermuda.

STOCKS CONTINUE DULL IN LONDON

Prices Giving Way Slowly —Interest in Foreign Policy of U. S. Candidates

By FRANCIS W. HIRST

[By Cable to The Tribune.]

London, Oct. 27.—The stock markets remain depressed and in an unsatisfactory condition. The lack of buying orders retards business, and prices give way slowly. The Indian loans have fallen flat. Brazilians are strong. Rumanian oils are recovering to-day. Viscount Grey's emphasis on the league for peace increases interest in the foreign policy outlook of your candidates. On this point the views of Charles E. Hughes are not clearly understood.

The new American loan is welcomed as a proof of our financial stability. The industrial situation is unchanged, save that the pressure increases with the military calls on labor. Belfast is about the only industrial town where the supply is adequate. Merchant ship building proceeds apace there. The Irish linen production, however, is only two-thirds normal, owing to the high price and scarcity of flax.

Despite the labor shortage and the high prices of materials, the Nottingham lace trade is exporting freely to both North and South America.

The new coal and freight limitation scheme for Italy and France will go into operation on October 30. This will increase the maximum price of shipments to the Allies and decrease the exports to neutrals. The growth of American tinplate exports is attracting attention.

Cotton Spindles

The growth of the world's cotton industries is shown in the annual cotton handbook, of London, the latest issue of which is reviewed by the "Textile Mercury," of Manchester, England. The present total of the world's cotton spindles is 151,667,000, compared with 94,568,000 twenty-one years ago. The greatest advance has been made in the United States. Since 1904 there has been an addition of more than 40,000,000 spindles throughout the world, and since 1895 about 57,000,000. There are now 6,513 cotton firms in all cotton spinning countries, 2,004 of these being in Great Britain. The number of cotton looms is estimated at 2,852,947. In commenting on the figures presented the "Mercury" says:

> It appears strange that the United States, with a considerably smaller number of spindles, should be using nearly twice as many bales of raw cotton as we are, and that India, with only 6,849,000 spindles, should be consuming more than half the bales that we dispose of with 60,000,000 spindles. Writers are pointing out that comparatively we are going back, but the difference in spindleage and consumption is so obvious that we must look elsewhere for an explanation of our position. If we are remaining practically stationary in consumption, with an increase in the number of spindles and of speed, it is clear that we are forging ahead in the quality of raw material used. The predominance of the ring frame abroad accounts to some extent for the apparently enormous consumption. But our place lies in the use of better qualities, in devoting more time to the spinning of a given quantity (for the production of higher counts), and in much less waste. This is the direction in which we continue to lead, and it is what we have to think about in discussing the problem of growing cotton for our purpose in our own empire. In this respect our attention is now frequently directed to India, but our supplies from this country are so small and the call from other countries so great that we cannot hope to get any satisfaction from India for a long time to come. We must also look elsewhere.

WHEAT BACK TO SEASON'S TOP PRICES

Corn Sells at Highest Figure Since 1867

Chicago, Oct. 27.—In a surprising burst of strength to-day, the wheat market soared above all recent high price records. Traders were largely influenced by assertions that exporters and foreign governments had obtained ownership of the bulk of deliveries here until January 1. Prices closed buoyant at the topmost point of the session, December at 186 to 186¾ and May at 184 to 184¾, with the market as a whole 3 to 5⅞c above Thursday's finish.

All records in nearly fifty years for high prices of corn were smashed, No. 2 yellow selling here at $1.10 a bushel. This price has not been surpassed since 1867, when the apex was $1.12. Futures closed 1¼ to 1⅝c higher.

New Zealand Grain Harvests

New Zealand harvested 334,139 acres of wheat during the 1915-'16 season. The crop from 328,017 acres was thrashed and yielded 7,070,814 bushels, or about 21.56 bushels per acre for the dominion, while the crop from 6,122 acres was fed to stock. Early in the seas..n it was reported that 379,869 acres of oats had been sown in this dominion, but only 7,489,749 bushels were thrashed from 209,730 acres, averaging 35.71 bushels t the acre, the remainder having been either cut for fodder or used for pasturage. The dry season shortened the crop in some sections. The outl ok for 1916-'17 seems good, according to Consul General Alfred A. Winslow, at Auckland, and preparations for a large acreage ar being made.

TARIFF PROTECTION URGED BY MR. GARY

Foreign Producers, He Predicts, Will Compete Vigorously for Trade After War

St. Louis, October 27.

Whenever the war shall close, the business of this country will be confronted with new conditions, E. H. Gary, chairman of the United States Steel Corporation, stated to-day in an address before the American Iron and Steel Institute. Mr. Gary said:

> The purchasing power of the whole world will have been very greatly reduced. Foreign countries who are now buying our products, because compelled, will withdraw their patronage in a large measure. Other non-producing countries will find their financial resources and credits lessened. More than this, foreign producers, in great need, will strive more diligently than ever to supply the countries that are financially able to pay and at prices based upon cheap labor and low cost, as they have a perfect right to do.
>
> Our producers, including our wage earners, will find themselves in commercial antagonism with the most persistent and difficult competition ever experienced, unless this shall be prevented by laws that are reasonable and sufficient. Most of the foreign producing countries, and quite likely all of them, will be thoroughly protected by tariff provisions and we should be on a parity with them in this respect.

If the present unprotective tariff laws remain unchanged Mr. Gary believes that we shall probably meet with competition from foreign sources after the war closes which will adversely, and perhaps disastrously, affect American industry and labor. Conditions, he declared, will be even worse than they were between October 1, 1913, and the beginning of the war. If the laws shall be amended and adequate protection to American producers and their workmen is afforded, we may expect satisfactory business conditions for some time to come.

Relevant Information

Atlantic, Gulf and West Indies.—The common stock sold yesterday from 95¼ to 104⅞, a new high record, closing 8 points up for the day at 103. This company owns all but a small minority of the capital stock of the Clyde Steamship Company, the Mallory Steamship Company, the New York and Cuba Mail Steamship Company (Ward Line) and the entire stock of the New York and Porto Rico Steamship Company. In addition, it owns directly a fleet of five ships. In August it was stated that the company had acquired control of the Mexican Navigation Company, with its nine steamships. The corporation's shares were admitted to dealings on the Stock Exchange early in the summer. Its earnings have increased greatly since the war began, owing to the unprecedented demand for ship tonnage. The full dividends are being paid on the $14,979,900 of 5 per cent non-cumulative preferred, while nothing has been paid as yet on the $14,963,400 of common. In the seven months ended July 31 last the company reported net earnings equivalent to 27.26 per cent on the common, compared with 7.75 per cent in the full year of 1915.

Utah Copper.—This was the strongest and most active of the coppers yesterday, advancing to a new high of 106. It closed 4¼ points up, at 105⅝. Utah is one of the leading porphyry producers. Its present output is estimated at 185,000,000 pounds annually. Its property contains the largest developed ore body in the world, with a proven tonnage exceeding that of the famous Rio Tinto mines, in Spain, and even exceeding the proven tonnage of the largest of the iron mines of the Mesaba range. Utah owns half of the outstanding capital stock of the Nevada Consolidated Copper Company. Last year the company earned $11.03 a share on the $16,244,900 (par $10) stock outstanding, and paid $4.25. The present rate is $6 a year. In June and September the company declared extras of $1.50. The company produces copper at an average cost of 7 cents a pound, and with the metal selling on the present basis of 28 cents, its earnings a share are estimated at more than $25 a share a year. In June the directors appropriated $2,500,000 for enlargement of milling capacity.

Distribution of War Profits.—A number of important corporations announced extra distributions to stockholders yesterday. The Scoville Manufacturing Company, maker of brass goods, fuses and shrapnel, declared an extra dividend of 10 per cent on the $5,000,000 of common outstanding. So far this year this company has paid out 93 per cent in dividends. The Solvay Process Company, soda manufacturers, with plants at Syracuse and Detroit, declared 3 per cent, extra, besides the regular quarterly dividend. The Semet Solvay Company, which is controlled by the Solvay Process Company, also declared 3 per cent extra. The By-Products Coke Corporation announced an extra disbursement of 1 per cent, in addition to the regular 1½ per cent quarterly. Directors of the Yale & Towne Manufacturing Company, lock and hardware makers, declared 5 per cent extra.

Ready-to-Wear Trade

The retail trade throughout the country this week was generally reported as brisk, although, according to "Nugent's Bulletin," the demand has become more and more pronounced for certain types of garments. In consequence retail stocks are somewhat unbalanced.

The demand for more staple lines has been large. The knit wear branch in particular has had more business than it could cope with.

AMERICANS TO MAKE CANADA A TRADE BASE

Branch Factories Operated in Dominion Enjoy Tariff Privileges

By S. ROY WEAVER

Toronto, October 26.

A variety of factors will contribute to a great expansion in the trade of the Dominion during the next few years. While Canadian business men have not yet realized, as they should, the opportunities which the war has opened to them, United States companies operating in Canada have done so, and are preparing for the future. It is generally believed that the Dominion will have a preference in the markets of the Empire, while the countries of the Allies are favorably disposed toward Canadian products, and closer trade relations are certain to result. The suggestion of a customs union between Canada and the West Indies has met with some approval.

The Canadian banks already are strongly established in the West Indies. Moreover, the products of the two countries are so different that there would be practically no competition between them were such a customs union consummated. Jamaica is the only large colony not a party to the present Canada-West Indies preferential trade agreement. Certainly the foreign trade outlook was never brighter for the Dominion.

Canadian Products To Be Favored

There is not the slightest doubt that Canada is going to be a basis for export for many large United States manufacturing companies. It is admitted that several of the biggest branch factories of American concerns recently located in Canada have been so located principally for this purpose. Your correspondent has seen the copy for a large advertising campaign planned among American business interests, pointing out the great opportunities offered by the Canadian home market and also emphasizing that made-in-Canada products will have a distinct preference in most of the markets of the world after the war. American companies already possessing subsidiaries in the Dominion are extending their Canadian plants. Moreover, there is a decided disinclination on the part of many of the largest American-owned companies in Canada to be known as United States concerns. New branches are being established in the Dominion by American manufacturers who hitherto have paid little attention to Canada or have been content to compete in the Canadian market only through their factories in the United States. Canadian branches of American companies already enjoy the full trade privilege afforded by the Dominion's tariff arrangements with the West Indies, France, Italy, etc. A great extension of those privileges, due indirectly to the war, is certain to appeal to capitalists south of the boundary.

BRAZILIAN TRACTION NOTES ARE SOLD HERE

Loans to Other South American Companies Are Expected

The Brazilian Traction, Light and Power Company, it was learned yesterday, has sold to William A. Read & Co. $7,500,000 three-year 6 per cent secured notes. The company does the street railway, electric light and power, gas and telephone business in the cities of Rio de Janeiro and Sao Paulo, Brazil, and adjacent territory.

The banking firm offering the Brazilian traction notes has formed a syndicate for the purpose of handling other foreign public utility loans they expect will be placed in this market in growing amounts. The Brazilian traction notes will be offered at a price to yield 6⅜ per cent.

TEXAS & PACIFIC PLAN OPEN AS TO ASSESSMENT

Scaling Down of Capital Advocated—Earnings Increased

The plan tentatively outlined by bankers for the reorganization of the Texas & Pacific Railway through the medium of a friendly receivership leaves the question of an assessment on the stock open. Those not in favor of a levy point to the increased earnings of the road as an argument against assessing the stockholders. They insist, however, that some capital readjustment will have to be made, probably in the form of a scaling down of the stock now outstanding.

With the admission by the Goulds and the Missouri Pacific interests that new money will have to be raised, it is already practically agreed that the $25,000,000 issue of second mortgage income bonds, owned by the Iron Mountain system, shall be replaced by another security which will not constitute a lien such as the present issue does. This, it is argued, will place the company in a position to proceed with new financing plans.

A banker familiar with the Texas & Pacific's financial needs said yesterday that the new issue of securities will not be as large as many expect.

According to an official notice published in "The British Board of Trade Journal" for October 5, 1916, manufactures of bone, horn, ivory and celluloid are subject to import prohibition under the terms of the proclamation of October 3, 1916.

News Digest

Foreign

London Markets.—London, Oct. 27.—The general war news improved sentiment on the Stock Exchange to-day and caused a hardening in first class investment stocks without expanding business materially. Oil stocks were firm, Rumanian issues recovered sharply and rubber shares were steadier. Japanese bonds were weak on the cessation of purchases for redemption purposes. In the American section the low-priced rails continued strong, but high-priced shares were dull.

The lists for the French loan were closed to-day. Applications were reported good, especially from the provinces during the last few days.

Money supplies were short and discount rates were firm. Money, 5 per cent; discount rates, short and three-month bills, 5½@5⅝ per cent; gold premiums at Lisbon, 64.

Paris Bourse.—Paris, Oct. 27.—Prices were irregular on the Bourse to-day. Three per cent rentes, 61 francs 10 centimes for cash; exchange on London, 27 francs 81½ centimes; 5 per cent loan, 90 francs.

New York

British Loan Syndicate Closed.—The underwriting syndicate for the $300,000,000 British loan was closed yesterday morning. Allotments were made by J. P. Morgan & Co., largely on the basis of their participation in the $250,000,000 British loan sold here in August and the Anglo-French loan of a year ago.

The Week in Trade.—Disproportion between demand and supply is more pronounced than at any previous time, and the rise in prices continues apace, according to R. G. Dun & Co. Widely divergent lines exhibit steadily increasing strength, and though most commodities are already at an extreme position, there is no sign that the crest has yet been reached. In steel and iron, in textiles, and in other branches the eagerness of buyers is regarded as foreshadowing still further advances, the growing scarcity of materials and products impelling urgent efforts to cover far distant requirements.

Commercial failures in the United States, as reported by R. G. Dun & Co., are 289, against 297 last week, 277 the preceding week, and 381 the corresponding week last year.

Federal Light and Traction.—Interests connected with the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company and Samuel Insull, of Chicago, have acquired substantial holdings in the stock and other securities of the Federal Light and Traction Company. This has resulted in a change of affiliations of the traction company from the General Electric Company to the Westinghouse company.

Directors, at a special meeting, elected Guy E. Tripp, chairman of the Westinghouse Electric and Manufacturing Company, Calvert Townley and Samuel Insull directors of the company. There is still one vacancy in the board.

Anson W. Burchard, vice-president of the General Electric Company; Harrison Williams, F. L. Dame and R. E. Breed have resigned from the directorate.

Rock Island Plan Not Ready.—The joint reorganization committee representing the stockholders and the debenture holders held a long meeting yesterday afternoon and discussed reorganization plans. A banker who was in attendance said that while favorable progress was made publication of a plan was not imminent.

Guaranty Trust Promotions.—N. D. Jay, manager of the bond department of the Guaranty Trust Company, has been made a vice-president, and L. S. Critchell, assistant secretary, has been appointed manager of the department of publicity and new business. Mr. Jay came to the Guaranty Trust Company a little over a year ago from the First National Bank of Milwaukee, where he was vice-president. Mr. Critchell began his banking career with the Metropolitan National Bank of Chicago.

New Bank Directors Chosen.—Thomas Williams, senior member of Ichabod T. Williams & Sons, has been elected a director of the United States Mortgage and Trust Company.

Reserve Bank Election.—The committee of the National Bank Section of the New York State Bankers' Association and of the New Jersey and Connecticut Bankers' Association, appointed to make recommendations to member banks of candidates for directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of New York, have suggested William Woodward, president of the Hanover National Bank, for reëlection as Class A director. As candidates for the Class B directorship now held by Henry R. Towne, the committee submits the names of Newcomb Carlton, president of the Western Union Telegraph Company; Eugene H. Outerbridge, of Harvey & Outerbridge, and Mr. Towne.

Permanent Board for 'Frisco.—The permanent board of directors of the reorganized St. Louis & San Francisco Railway Company, as announced yesterday, follows: F. W. Allen, E. N. Brown, Henry Ruhlender, J. W. Lusk, James Speyer, Frederick Strauss, E. V. R. Thayer, W. B. Biddle, Murray Carleton, Samuel Lazarus, C. H. Sabine, A. L. Shapleigh, Festus J. Wade, M. L. Wilkinson and W. C. Nixon.

Mr. Ruhlender is chairman of the board, with Mr. Nixon as president and Mr. Biddle first vice-president; E. D. Levy, second vice-president; N. M. Rice, third vice-president, and C. W. Hillard, fourth vice-president.

Other Cities

Industrial Massachusetts. — Boston, Oct. 27.—Manufactured products in Massachusetts showed an increase in value of a little more than 10 per cent in the five-year period from 1909 to 1914, according to a report issued by the state Bureau of Statistics to-day. The value in the latter year was $1,641,373,047. The report points out, however, that there was a decrease in value of more than seventeen million dollars from the figures in 1913, and that the rate of increase for the five years was far below the average at any time for nearly twenty years.

In the same period the amount of wages paid increased more than 13 per cent. In all previous five-year periods since 1895 the value of manufactured products had increased more rapidly than the amount paid in wages.

Massachusetts in 1914 retained its leadership of all the states in the manufacture of boots and shoes, cotton goods and woollen and worsted goods. In total manufactures the state dropped from fourth to fifth place, being outranked by Ohio.

Boston Coppers.—Boston, Oct. 27.—Copper shares moved little to-day and most transactions were in the price channels of yesterday. The closing was somewhat higher. Copper Range, 70½; Allouez, 69; Granby, 90; Old Dominion, 70.

Old Employes Retired.—Louisville, Ky., Oct. 27.—Five employes in the general offices here of the Louisville & Nashville Railroad, all widely known in the South, were retired to-day from active service under the age limit rule and on pensions. Charles Haydon, for thirty-eight years with the system and since 1887 its controller, will be succeeded by Alexander J. Pharr, his assistant. Those retired with Mr. Haydon are P. P. Huston, purchasing agent; G. W. Proctor, assistant treasurer; Robert E. Sewell, auditor of disbursements, and his assistant, Daniel J. Duane. All have been with the Louisville & Nashville from thirty-seven to fifty-three years.

Corporation Returns

Corn Products Refining.—Report for the nine months ended September 30, 1916, shows surplus of $2,616,341, equal to 5.23 per cent

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